(b) to (d) Rationalisation is in the interest of consumers. The final antendment of meat and escalation of prices of meat overall policy of liberalisation.

Avilability of meat products in Delhi

6228. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a heavy shortage of meat and escalation of prices of meet, chicken and eggs in Delhi, following the High Court's orders restricting slaughter that the Idgah abattoir; and

(b) what steps Government are taking to make available meat products at resonable rates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Following the Orders of Delhi High Court and subsequent strike by butchers in Delhi, meat has become scarce and prices of checken has gone up. Prices of eggs were reported to be steady during January—March, 1994.

(b) Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) has reported that the Delhi High Court has ordered that the slaughter house at Idgah shall be closed from 31-12-93 and a new modern slaughter house be constructed before that date.

MCD appealed for extension of time to the High Court Meanwhile, the High Court has ordered that the slaughter house must be closed but if it continues for any reasons whatsoever, MCD should restrict to slaughtering of 2000 sheeps and goats and 500 buffaloes. MCD has reported that construction of new slaughter house in Alwar (Rajasthan) has taken a final shape and will take some time to come up. This will take care of export and even domestic requirements of Delhi. if necessary.

Functioning of Consumer Courts

6229. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer the answer to Unstarred Question 3601 given in the Rajya Sabha on 18.4.94 and to state;

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem captioned "Consumer Courts Conformed Confusion" in Indian Express dated 25-3-94 regarding functioning of Consumer Courts; and

(b) if so, reaction of Government thereto and steps contemplated to renove the administrative and other problems of these courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED); (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to information sent by Delhi State Goernment, the two District Forums in Delhi have been provided with all the snctioned posts, adequate funds, accommodation and infrastructure like photocopiers, duplicators, typewriters and sufficient furniture.

Supply of essential commodities to the backward areas of M.P.

6230. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of essential commodities in rural and backward areas of Madhya Pradesh for the last three to four months;

(b) if so, whether the State Government has requested the Central Government to enhance the supply of essential commodities to that State;

(c) if so, the steps taken by Central Government in this regard; and

(d) how much essential commodities have been increased to that State for the last three months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) The Central Government has not received reports of shortage of foodgrains from the Government of Madhya Pradesh during the last few months. Some shortage to kerosene was reported in certain areas/pockets of the State in recent months.

(b) and (c) State Government has requested for increase in allocation of foodgrains to cover additional areas having concentration of tribal population under the Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS).

Bulk allocations of PDS commodities are made by Central Government to States/UTs taking into account the demand received from the States, stocks in Central Pool, *inter-se* requirements of States/UTs and seasonal factors. Allocations of PDS items are supplemental in nature and are not intended to meet the total requirements of any State/UT including Madhya Pradesh. Sub-allocations to particular regions and districts within the State is a matter under the administrative jurisdiction of the State Government. There is no proposal at present to increase the area of coverage under RPDS in Madhya Pradesh.

(d) Allocation of PDS items made to Madhya Pradesh during 1994 is given below:

(in 000 tonnes)

	January, 1994	February, 94	March, 94	April, 94	May 94
Rice	40.90	40.90	40.90	40.90	40.90
Wheat	41.00	41.00	41.00	41.00	41.00
Levy Sugar	26.08	26.08	26.28	25.03	25.03
Imported Edible Oil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Kerosene *	39.15	39.15	34.10	34.10	34.10

* Madhya Pradesh has opted for allocation of SKO on block period basis (such as summer block, monsoon block and winter block)

Allocation of consumer goods for tribal and desert areas of Rajasthan

6231. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase in the demand of consumer goods like wheat, rice and sugar by the consumers of Rajasthan, particularly of desert/tribal areas;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to enhance the allocation of wheat, rice and sugar to Rajasthan;

(c) the projections made for 1994-95; and

(d) what are the steps taken by Government in this regard so far, indicating the margin of subsidy on foodgrains per quintal for tribal areas, item-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c) Government of Rajasthan had requested for an annual allocation of 11.58 lakh tonnes of wheat and 38,400 tonnes of rice for distribution through PDS/RPDS in 1993-94